

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SINGAP 03884 01 OF 02 070949Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-08 AID-05 OES-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /091 W

-----125329 070959Z /13

O R 070725Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8489

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SINGAPORE 3884

USIAC

USIS MANILA FOR YAKI AND PHILLIPS

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: LOCAL MEDIA REACTION TO U.S.- ASEAN TALKS

1. NEW NATION, SEPT. 6, HEADLINE: CHOK TONG TO LEAD
SINGAPORE TEAM.

"THE MANILA TALKS WILL BE THE FIRST-EVER FORMAL U.S.
FORUM WITH ASEAN SINCE VIETNAM FELL TO THE COMMUNISTS IN
APRIL 1975.

"REPRESENTING THE U.S. AT THE TALKS WILL BE MR.
RICHARD COOPER, UDER-SECRETARY OF STATE. HE IS EFFECTIVELY
THE FOURTH HIGHEST RANKING OFFICIAL IN THE STATE
DEPARTMENT, ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY HERE TODAY.

"TOP PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO EIGHT ISSUES DURING
THE THREE-DAY MEETING IN MANILA. THEY ARE COMMODITIES,
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SINGAP 03884 01 OF 02 070949Z

ACCESS TO MARKETS, ACCESS TO CAPITAL, OFFICIAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, OPERATION OF TRANSNATIONAL
CORPORATIONS, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, DEVELOPMENT OF
ENERGY RESOURCES AND FOOD SECURITY.

"OTHER ASEAN NATIONS ARE ALSO SENDING MINISTERS FOR
THE DIALOGUE SESSION. MALAYSIA WILL BE REPRESENTED

BY DATUK HAMSAH ABU SAMAH, MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, AND DATUK MUSA HITAM, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES MINISTER; AND INDONESIA BY TRADE MINISTER RADIUS PRAWIRO.

"THE SINGAPORE TEAM WILL INCLUDE MR TAN BOON SENG, ASEAN DIRECTOR-GENERAL, MR TAN BOEN ENG, SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT, MR. ANTHONY CHNG, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, AND MR. TAN SENG LIM, FIRST SECRETARY, SINGAPORE EMBASSY IN MANILA. (GERRY DE SILVA)"

2. STRAITS TIMES, SEPT 7, HEADLINE: ASEAN HOPES U.S. WILL MATCH JAPAN.

"PHILIPPINE FOREIGN SECRETARY CARLOS ROMULO TODAY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THE UNITED STATES WOULD MATCH JAPAN'S PLEDGE OF US \$1 BILLION (\$\$2.5 BILLION) IN FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ASEAN INDUSTRIALIZATION.

"WE ARE HOPEFUL THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD PROVIDE US WITH USEFUL INSIGHTS ON AREAS OF POSSIBLE COOPERATION BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE U.S., "DR. ROMULO SAID IN A PREPARED PRESS STATEMENT WHICH HE POINTED OUT WAS APPROVED BY THE ASEAN GROUP.

"HE SAID THE TWO SIDES WOULD DISCUSS MEASURES TO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SINGAP 03884 01 OF 02 070949Z

MITIGATE THE NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF COMMODITY TRADE ARISING FROM INSTABILITIES IN WORLD TRADE, AS WELL AS ACCESS OF ASEAN EXPORTS TO THE AMERICAN MARKET.

"OTHER ISSUES ARE ACCESS TO CAPITAL ON CONCESSIONAL TERMS, TRANSFERS OF TECHNOLOGY, MONETARY REFORMS AND FOOD SECURITY.

"ACCORDING TO DR. ROMULO, ASEAN WOULD LIKE TO EXPLORE WITH THE U.S. THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BEYOND THOSE PRESENTLY BEING GIVEN BY THE U.S. THROUGH AID (AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT) OR ON A BILATERAL BASIS.

"ASEAN ALSO HOPES THE U.S. WOULD HAVE 'SOMETHING CONCRETE' TO OFFER TO THE ASEAN INDUSTRIALIZATION PROGRAM, DR. ROMULO SAID.

"HE SAID CONCESSIONAL FINANCING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE VARIOUS ASEAN INDUSTRIALIZATION PROJECTS MIGHT CONSTITUTE SOME AREAS FOR FOREIGN PARTICIPATION.

"ON THE COMMODITIES PROBLEM, DR. ROMULO SAID
ASEAN WOULD SEEK U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF REMEDIAL MEASURES PROPOSED IN THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM
FOR COMMODITIES.

"COOPERATION SHOULD ALSO TAKE THE FORM OF U.S.
SUPPORT TO ASEAN'S INITIATIVE TO STABILIZE THE EARNINGS
OF ASEAN EXPORTS LIKE RUBBER, TIN, VEGETABLE OILS AND
OIL SEEDS, TEIMBER, COPPER, SUGAR, AND HARD FIBERS,
DR. ROMULO ADDED.

"DR. ROMULO ALSO VOICED ASEAN'S CONCERN AT U.S.
MOVES TO IMPOSE LIMITS ON TAX DEFERRAL TO FOREIGN
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 SINGAP 03884 01 OF 02 070949Z

INCOMES OF OVERSEAS AMERICAN COMPANIES.

"THE TAX DEFERRAL SYSTEM, HE POINTED OUT, HAD
BEEN BENEFICIAL TO ASEAN'S INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND ITS
REMOVAL WOULD HAVE 'ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES.' THIS
WOULD ALSO BE TAKEN UP IN THE DIALOGUE, HE SAID. (AFP)."

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SINGAP 03884 02 OF 02 070937Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 EB-08 TRSE-00 AID-05 OES-07 OMB-01 /091 W
-----125213 070959Z /10

O R 070725Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8490
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SINGAPORE 3884

3. STRAITS TIMES, SEPT. 7, EDITORIAL: ASEAN-U.S. LINKS.

"ASEAN AND AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES MEET IN MANILA TOMORROW, AND IF ALL GOES WELL, AS IT SHOULD, THE GATHERING WILL MARK THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FIVE-MEMBER BLOC AND THE U.S. THE ASEAN TEAM WILL BE PUTTING FORWARD SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON COMMODITIES, TRADE, INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT AID. AND THE INDICATIONS ARE THAT THEY WILL RECEIVE A SYMPATHETIC HEARING AND SOME POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM THE AMERICANS. FOR EXAMPLE, IT APPEARS THAT THE U.S. IS READY TO GO ALONG WITH THE ASEAN PROPOSAL FOR A STABEX ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING THE COMPENSATORY FINANCING OF ANY SERIOUS SHORTFALL IN EXPORT EARNINGS FROM COMMODITIES-- SO LONG AS IT IS ESTABLISHED ON A GLOBAL BASIS. THIS SCHEME, ALONG THE LINES OF THE ONE OPERATED BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY WITH 49 AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES, WAS FIRST PROPOSED DURING THE RECENT VISIT OF THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER, MR. TAKEO FUKUDA. AMERICAN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WOULD NO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SINGAP 03884 02 OF 02 070937Z

DOUBT HAVE SOME INFLUENCE ON THE LUKEWARM JAPANESE WHO HAVE PROMISED ONLY TO LOOK INTO THE PROBLEMS OF THE SCHEME.

"BUT THE MANILA MEETING WILL HAVE A WIDER IMPORTANT THAN JUST THE DISCUSSION OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT PROPOSALS. PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION HAS SHOWN ITSELF TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE CONCERNS AND PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND ASEAN CAN LOOK FORWARD TO THIS RESPONSIVENESS BEING SHOWN IN PRACTICAL WAYS SINCE WASHINGTON IS ANXIOUS TO DEMONSTRATE THAT IT INTENDS TO FULFILL ITS PROMISE OF PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN THE SOUTH-EAST ASIAN REGION. AFTER VIETNAM, THE EMPHASIS IS TO BE IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE, IT NOW BEING ACCEPTED THAT PEACE AND STABILITY CAN BEST BE SAFEGUARDED THROUGH THE PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. IT IS TRUE, UNFORTUNATELY, THAT THE MANILA TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE AGAINST THE UNHAPPY BACKGROUND OF A WORLD ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN, BUT THIS IS UNLIKELY TO AFFECT THE U.S. ATTITUDE TO ASEAN PROPOSALS AND THE PHILOSOPHICAL FRAMEWORK AROUND THE DISCUSSIONS. ASEAN HAS GROWN QUICKLY IN WASHINGTON'S ESTIMATION, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CLOSER, PERHAPS FORMAL, ECONOMIC TIES WILL BE A WELCOME AND PUBLIC AFFIRMATION OF ITS INTENTION OF NURTURING A STRONG RELATIONSHIP." STRYKER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SINGAP03884
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770323-0185
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770990/aaaacyap.tel
Line Count: 223
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 743b4a4b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1363618
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL MEDIA REACTION TO U.S.- ASEAN TALKS
TAGS: SOPN, ECIN, US, ASEAN
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/743b4a4b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009